

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 36826 01 OF 02 171207Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----090877 171210Z /23
O 171157Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3231

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 36826

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) FR
SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: PLANNING FOR SUBSTANTIVE
TALKS

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED ARRANGEMENTS WITH ELYSEE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS ADVISOR ROBIN FOR THE THREE SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS
BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CARTER AND GISCARD AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS.

2. FIRST MEETING:

ROBIN CONFIRMED GISCARD'S STRONG DESIRE THAT THE
FIRST MEETING, TO BE HELD AT THE ELYSEE FROM 4:30-5:30
ON JAN 4, BE A TETE-A-TETE. ROBIN ASSUMED THAT AN
INTERPRETER/NOTETAKER FROM EACH SIDE WOULD BE PRESENT
AT LEAST AT THE START, BUT MIGHT WITHDRAW IF GISCARD
SWITCHES FROM FRENCH TO ENGLISH AFTER A FEW MINUTES.
MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN FIRST FLOOR ROOM WHICH HAD
BEEN DE GAULLE'S STUDY.

3. ELYSEE HAS NOT YET CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OR
FORMAT OF SIMULTANEOUS BUT SEPARATE TALKS BETWEEN OTHER
MEMBERS OF US PARTY AND THEIR FRENCH COUNTERPARTS. ONE
POSSIBILITY ROBIN MENTIONED WOULD BE SIMULTANEOUS CALLS
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BY THE SECRETARY ON GUIRINGAUD AT THE QUAI, BY
BRZEZINSKI ON FRANCOIS-PONCET, ETC. THE SIMPLER, LESS
TIME-CONSUMING AND IN OUR VIEW PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE
WOULD BE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY TO
MEET WITH THEIR FRENCH COUNERPARTS OIN AN ADJACENT ROOM
AT THE ELYSEE TO THAT IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT IS MEETING
WITH GISCARD. THIS WOULD HAVE THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF

MAKING THEM AVAILABLE IF NEEDED BY THE PRESIDENTS.
ROBIN WILL ADVISE US ON FRENCH PREFERENCES EARLY NEXT
WEEK.

4. SECOND MEETING:

THE SECOND MEETING WILL BE ON THE TRAIN. FIRST,
THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER WILL BE INVITED TO LUNCH
PRIVATELY WITH PRESIDENT AND MADAME GISCARD D'ESTAING
IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAR. ASSUMING THE CAEN STOP IS
OUT, LUNCH WOULD BEGIN SHORTLY AFTER DEPARTURE FROM
BAYEUX AT ABOUT 1340. LUNCH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT
ONE HOUR AND TEN MINUTES. ROBIN THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE
FOLLOWED BY A SHORT PERIOD OVER COFFEE (ABOUT TEN OR
FIFTEEN MINUTES) IN THE ADJOINING SALON, SEATING SIX,
TO WHICH, BESIDES THE PRESIDENTIAL FAMILIES, AT
MOST ONE OTHER REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH SIDE COULD BE
INVITED. ONE INTERPRETER/NOTETAKER FROM EACH SIDE
SHOULD BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT.

AT ABOUT THREE O'CLOCK THE TWO PRESIDENTS MIGHT
THEN JOIN THE OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS IN AN ADJOINING
CAR, SEATING FOURTEEN, FOR AN ENLARGED MEETING FOR THE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 36826

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REMAINDER OF THE TRIP - OR ABOUT AN HOUR. THERE IS THUS
SPACE FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE US SIDE, BESIDES THE
PRESIDENT, SUCH AS THE SECRETARY, AMBASSADOR HARTMAN,
DR. BRZEZINSKI, ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, MR. ROBERT
HUNTER AND MR. LAKE. INTERPRETERS WILL PRESUMABLY BE
PRESENT - ALTHOUGH ROOM WILL BE TIGHT.

ROBIN IS WORKING ON A FRENCH LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
AND WOULD APPRECIATE OUR REACTIONS TO THIS SCENARIO AND
OUR LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.

5. THIRD MEETING:

THE THIRD MEETING IN THE ELYSEE VIEW WOULD BE A
SECOND ENLARGED SESSION, OF ONE HOUR, AT THE ELYSEE,
FROM NINE TO TEN A.M. ON JAN 6. IT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD
THAT THE TWO PRESIDENTS MIGHT WISH AT ANY POINT TO
WITHDRAW TO THE ADJOINING STUDY FOR A FURTHER BRIEF
PRIVATE EXCHANGE. INTERPRETERS WOULD STAND BY.

6. ROBIN INTENDS TO DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF THE MEETINGS
WITH GISCARD MONDAY OR TUESDAY AND WILL THEN GIVE US
THE REFINED FRENCH PROPOSALS. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO
US, THEREFORE, TO HAVE PRELIMINARY US REACTIONS TO THE
ABOVE PROGRAM AND AITERNAIVES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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